



Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department



**Annual
Report**

&

**2000
Calendar**

Table of Contents

Fire Chief's Message	2
By The Numbers	3
Map and Station Locations	4
Operations	5 & 7
Professional Standards	
Planning	
Fiscal Administration	
Equal Employment Opportunity	9
Special Operations	11
Fire Prevention	13 & 15
Support Services	17
Human Resources	19
Occupational Health and Safety	21
Academy	23
Volunteers	25
Public Information and	
Life Safety Education	27
Emergency Services Data	29
Fire Data	30



Robert J. O'Neill, Jr.
County Executive



Anthony H. Griffin
Deputy County Executive

Board of Supervisors

Katherine K. Hanley, Chairman

Gerald W. Hyland
Mount Vernon District

Catherine M. Hudgins
Hunter Mill District

Dana Kauffman
Lee District

Sharon Bulova
Braddock District

Michael R. Frey
Sully District

Elaine McConnell
Springfield District

Gerald E. Connolly
Providence District

Penelope A. Gross
Mason District

Stuart Mendelsohn
Dranesville District

Fire and Rescue Academy

4600 West Ox Road
Fairfax, Virginia





Chief Edward L. Stinnette

Public Safety Center
4100 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia



To the Citizens of Fairfax County:

As Fire Chief and agency head, I am proud to present this 1998 annual report on what we do as an organization and the progress we have made. I also want to tell you what is on the horizon and what priorities have been established.

Since my appointment in April 1999, I have put forward my priorities for the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. Let me emphasize that serving our citizens is our most important mission. My priorities include:

- Continue to provide the highest quality of emergency service possible
- Seek and find opportunities to better serve citizens
- Look for non-traditional roles for the Department
- Tailor programs for citizens based on needs
- Invest in training opportunities
- Be flexible, recognizing that one size does not fit all

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department has just observed its 50th anniversary. It is with considerable satisfaction that we look back with pride and accomplishment; however, we cannot rest on our laurels. We are now entering the 21st century and must look forward to the challenges and opportunities it will bring. We will examine our current programs and decide whether to continue them, or reestablish programs and then redirect resources in the direction that is best for you, the citizen. Our goal is to meet and exceed our challenges and provide all citizens with the best emergency service care possible—second-to-none. Working together, we can look forward to a future that is overflowing with opportunity.

My charge is to provide the leadership and direction to ensure that the service we deliver meets your expectations.

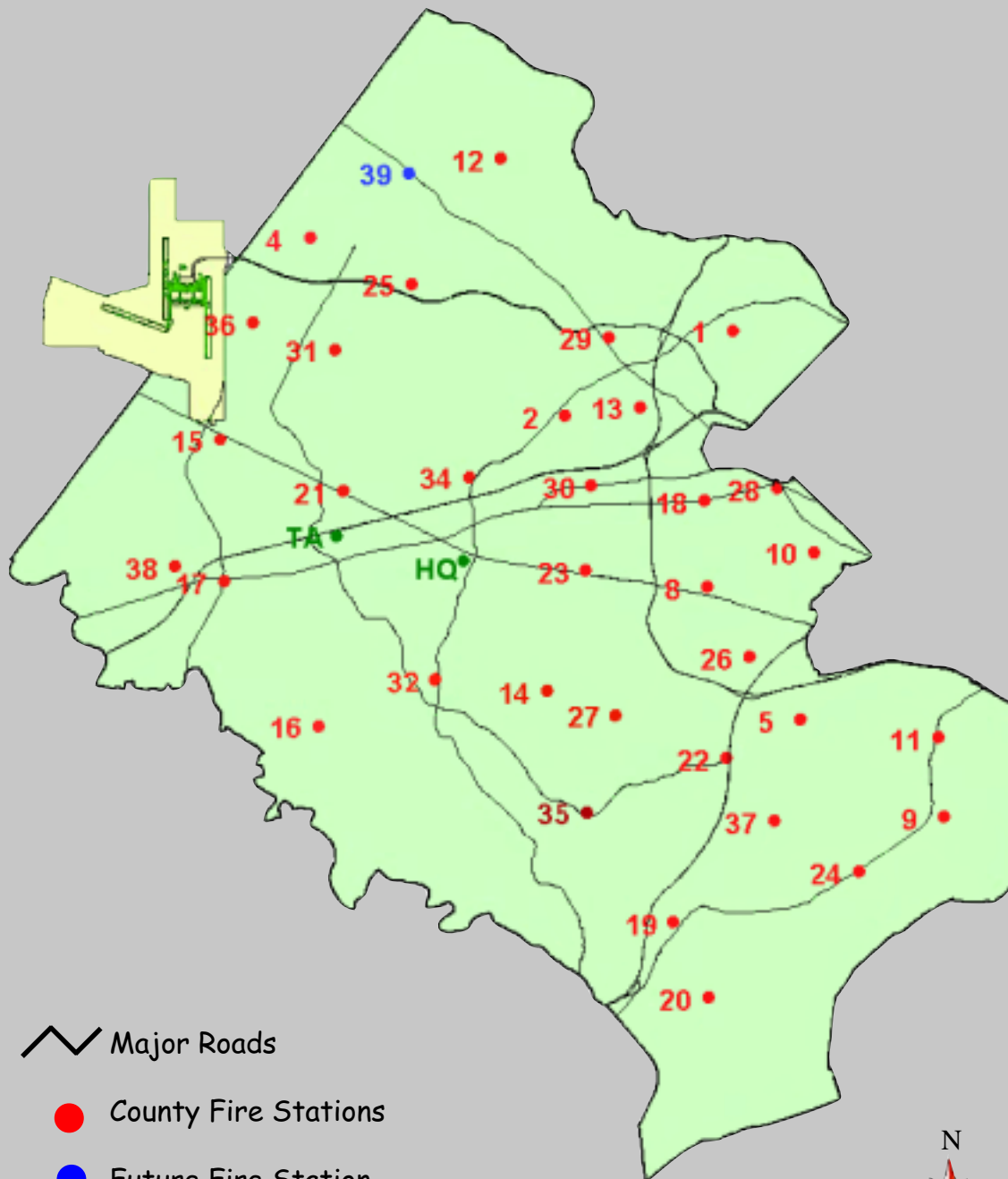
None of this would be possible without the efforts of all the members of this Department, who give their unwavering support, loyalty and total involvement. Additionally, I would like to thank the Board of Supervisors and the County Executive for their continuing support.



By The Numbers

1	Safety Avenue Fire Education (SAFE) Interactive Center
3	Fire Fatalities
5	Volunteer Canteens
6	Battalions
7	Heavy Rescue Companies
18	Ambulances
21	Medic Units
22	Technical Rescues
34	Fire and Rescue Stations
54	Water Rescues
66	Total Weeks of Recruit Training
85	Civilian, Full-time Personnel
92	Civilian, Seasonal Personnel
109	Accidental Fires Investigated
109	Life Saving Resuscitations
134	Incendiary Fires Investigated
152	Hazardous Materials Incidents/Responses
380	Volunteer Personnel
399	Area of Fairfax County (in square miles)
443	Cardiac Arrests
481	Fire Boxes
575	Overdoses/Poisonings
1,139	Uniformed Personnel
4,798	Public Service Incidents
7,023	False Alarms
13,191	Systems Tested
19,537	Suppression Incidents
19,800	Faulty Omega Sprinklers Replaced
22,561	Inspections
34,172	Patients Transported
50,319	EMS Incidents
73,654	Total Incidents
149,663	Total Training Staff Hours Provided
\$185,681	Average Value of Housing Units in Fairfax County
339,119	Total Housing Units in Fairfax County
912,126	Population of Fairfax County
\$11,009,146	Dollar Loss of All Fires
\$74,948,091	Annual Budget

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Stations

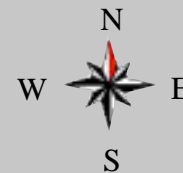


Major Roads

County Fire Stations

Future Fire Station

Training Academy and Headquarters



Station	Location	Telephone
* 1	McLean	356-6671
* 2	Vienna	938-2242
4	Herndon	437-1233
* 5	Franconia	971-5858
* 8	Annandale	256-2552
9	Mount Vernon	780-0150
*10	Bailey's Crossroads	820-2345
11	Penn Daw	765-4404
*12	Great Falls	759-2300
*13	Dunn Loring	560-1539
*14	Burke	978-9200
15	Chantilly	378-5353
16	Clifton	830-1901
*17	Centreville	830-8280
18	Jefferson	573-4505
*19	Lorton	339-5141
20	Gunston	339-5970
*21	Fair Oaks	591-0247
*22	Springfield	451-0120
*23	West Annandale	978-3340
24	Woodlawn	780-0110
25	Reston	437-7575
26	Edsall Road	256-2236
27	West Springfield	451-0453
28	Seven Corners	532-1451
29	Tysons Corner	893-0140
30	Merrifield	573-5321
31	Fox Mill	860-2680
32	Fairview	250-8900
34	Oakton	591-0273
35	Pohick	451-5500
36	Frying Pan	793-0043
*37	Kingstowne	719-9294
*38	West Centreville	802-2806

* Volunteer Department affiliated with these stations.



Operations

The Operations Division has overall responsibility for providing the highest level of quality emergency service to Fairfax County citizens. Meeting the needs of citizens and creating customer satisfaction is the highest priority.

The Operations Division has more than 1,000 career and about 380 volunteer personnel assigned; all are certified EMT's and about one-third of the force is certified as paramedics. All 34 engines in the county are staffed with a firefighter/paramedic, 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week.

The Fire and Rescue Department operates on three separate 24-hour rotating shifts. Each shift is led by a Deputy Chief who is responsible for shift management, movement of apparatus for redundant emergency coverage, training, certification and emergency incident response.

Each shift is separated geographically into six battalions, each of which is supervised by a Battalion Chief. Each Battalion Chief is responsible for six fire stations and assigned personnel. While on duty, they manage staffing, equipment movement and training, and supervise about 50 personnel.

Each battalion also has an EMS Captain assigned as an EMS Supervisor. They are part of the Battalion Management Team. They ensure that total quality management standards are met, provide supervision for assigned advance life support providers and assume the role of medical control officer for emergency medical incidents.

January 2000

 A Shift

 B Shift

 C Shift

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Plan and practice your home fire escape route.			Cool burns with cool running water.		1 <i>New Year's Day</i>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 <i>Martin Luther King Day</i>	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	December 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			Have two ways out of every room.	February 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29



Operations

Strategic Vision

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department will become the national model for providing responsive, quality emergency and preventive services. Effectively serving the public remains our highest priority. We will always value our personnel as dedicated and compassionate professionals, who continuously strive to meet the changing needs of our community. We will actively participate in community life and, by example, serve as leaders and role models.

Average Response Times (minutes/seconds)

Advance Life Support
6:00

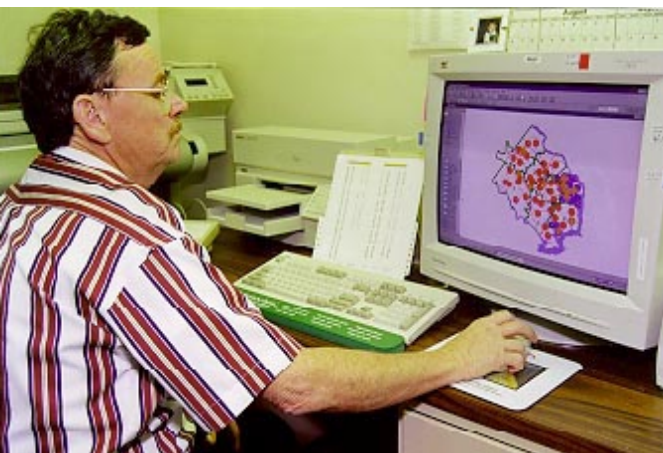
Basic Life Support
4:47

Fire
5:10

Public Service
6:37

February 2000

A Shift		B Shift		C Shift		
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Establish an outdoor meeting place.	1	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i>	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i>
13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 <i>President's Day</i>	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29			Sleep with your bedroom doors closed.	
	Know how to unlock your doors and windows.	January 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 9 10 11 12 13 14 8 16 17 18 19 20 21 15 23 24 25 26 27 28 22 30 31			March 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	



Professional Standards

The Professional Standards Office is primarily responsible for the investigation of allegations of employee misconduct. Additionally, the internal affairs officer performs background investigations of applicants, both career and volunteer; administers selected follow-up polygraph examinations in support of the recruitment process; provides oversight of selected employee drug-screening; provides in-service training for staff; and trains recruits while at the Fire and Rescue Academy on how “character matters” as a professional firefighter.

Planning

The Planning Section is responsible for coordinating long-range planning, including development of the Department’s strategic plan. Additionally, it coordinates, revises and implements capital improvement projects, including the planning, design and construction of new facilities, and major renovations to existing stations. The design and installation of vehicle exhaust removal systems within existing stations is a priority for providing a safer and more pleasant working environment.

Staff also evaluates and updates emergency response planning criteria and dispatch information to expedite emergency services. This includes coordinating the implementation of the Geographic Information System to automate the emergency response planning process. Current capabilities include the use of posted speed limits along the roadways to determine emergency response dispatch order.

Fiscal Administration

The Fiscal Administration Office is responsible for annual budget preparation, monthly and quarterly reviews, and monitoring and tracking expenditures throughout the year. As the budget process begins each year, a team of representatives from each organization within the Department works to prepare the almost \$80 million dollar budget for the rigorous review and approval process. There are over one thousand individual line items in the Department’s budget. The fiscal administrator serves as the agency coordinator and liaison for all financial operations for the Fire and Rescue Department.

Equal Employment Opportunity

The Equal Employment Office (EEO) is responsible for overseeing the Department’s compliance with federal, state and county regulations prohibiting discrimination; county personnel rules and regulations; standard operating procedures; and the Fairfax County diversity plan. The EEO Office has dramatically expanded its EEO counselor program to include volunteers.

The EEO Office now provides training in the area of discrimination, harassment, diversity and violence in the workplace to senior managers. Recruits and adjunct recruitment trainers also receive training in discrimination, sexual harassment and cultural diversity. The EEO Office and the staff participated in a number of training opportunities throughout the year.



March 2000

<div> <div>A Shift</div> <div>B Shift</div> <div>C Shift</div> </div>						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Never paint sprinkler heads.		1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
					St. Patrick's Day	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
		February 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29		Never store flammable liquids in your home.		April 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30



Special Operations

Recently, Technical Services and Emergency Medical Services combined to form the Special Operations Division. The newly formed division is led by a deputy chief and manages emergency medical services, hazardous materials emergency response, water rescue, and technical rescue programs. The Division also manages the County's Urban Search and Rescue program (foreign and domestic response) and participates as a member of the Metropolitan Medical Strike Team.

Since the beginning of the year personnel have been involved in over 53,000 incidents. Special Operations strives to ensure that county citizens are afforded the most advanced emergency medical care, rescue response, and hazardous materials emergency response possible.

April 2000

A Shift		B Shift		C Shift			
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
	Keep common household poisons and medicines out of the reach of children.					1	
2 Change smoke detector battery. Daylight Saving Time Begins	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Tax Day	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30		March 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			Never leave burning candles unattended.		May 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



Fire Prevention

The Hazardous Materials and Investigative Services Section investigates fires, explosions, and hazardous materials releases, oversees hazardous materials clean-up and remediation, inspect blasting sites and materials, and performs related emergency planning as needed.

The Enforcement Branch manages and maintains the Hazardous Materials Enforcement Program, Hazardous Materials Release Oversight and Monitoring Program. They also conduct criminal investigation of hazardous materials violations, hazardous waste dumps, and other environmental crimes.

The Technical Support Branch is responsible for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response and Contingency Planning Program, Legislative and Regulatory Oversight Program, Significant Hazardous Surveillance Program, Emergency Incident Cost Recovery Program, and provides staff support and input to the Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee.

The Fire Investigations Branch is responsible for determining the cause and circumstances of all fires and explosions in Fairfax County.

Fire investigators receive extensive training in fire origin and cause determination, post-blast explosives scene examination, and law enforcement practices and procedures. Fire investigators provide 24-hour coverage ensuring rapid response to any fire or explosion. Bert, our accelerant detection canine, is part of a National Response Team.

The Fire Protection Systems Branch is divided into the Acceptance Testing Unit, and the Re-testing Unit.

The Acceptance Testing Unit witnesses and monitors tests on fire protection systems in buildings under construction and renovation. The Re-testing Unit witnesses annual re-tests of fire protection systems in existing buildings. These units conducted over 1,280 inspections and generated \$1.1 million in revenue for the County's General Fund.

Additionally, the Fire Prevention Division has been involved in the identification and ongoing remediation of faulty Omega fire sprinklers. After extensive testing by independent testing laboratories, it was determined that the Omega sprinkler head was unreliable during simulated fire conditions and have launched a countywide removal and replacement program. Over 35,000 faulty sprinkler heads have been replaced.

The mission of the Inspections Branch is to protect life and property from the effects of fire through timely inspections, education, and enforcement of the Virginia and Fairfax County Fire Prevention Codes. During 1998, over 20,000 inspections were conducted. More than 7,000 permits were issued and over 3,000 home day care inspections were performed.

Personnel also review fire lane plans, ensure fire lanes are established according to code requirements, and assist building management with building evacuation and fire drill planning.

May 2000

A Shift				B Shift				C Shift									
SUN		MON		TUE		WED		THU		FRI		SAT					
Keep barbeque grills away from structures.		1		2		3		4		5		6					
												Safe Kids Day					
		7		8		9		10		11		12					
												13					
14		15		16		17		18		19		20					
Mother's Day																	
21		22		23		24		25		26		27					
28		29		30		31				Use your head—wear a helmet.							
		Memorial Day															
				April								June					
				230								125					
				916								418					
				230								125					
				916								418					
				230								125					
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				916								418					
				230								125					



Fire Prevention

The Engineering Plans Review Branch is responsible for reviewing all building, site, detection, and suppression plans to ensure code compliance in the area of fire protection and life safety systems. Staff reviewed 9,490 plans.

The branch also continued its “Engineer on Call” program for evaluating code related problems.

The Revenue and Records Branch is responsible for collecting fees for all Fire Marshal activities, including collection of fees for plans review, field testing, inspections, and fire prevention code permits, including hazardous materials. Functions and approximate production numbers include:

- Provided initial point of contact for Fire Prevention Code permitting and information. (Approximately 7,200 permits processed each year). Collected fees for Fire Prevention Code permitting (approximately \$811,000).
- Maintained the regulatory and other legally required records for fire prevention, including Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests and business inquiries. (Approximately 300,000 records averaging more than one million pages were processed. Two thousand record searches were conducted). Collected hourly inspection fees for Fire Marshal required inspections. (Approximately \$145,000).
- Provided customer information and guidance on permitting, fees, processes, and procedure aspects of regulatory requirements.
- Collected fees for fire protection system acceptance testing inspections (approximately \$816,000).
- Collected fees for fire protection system plan reviews (approximately \$1,204,500).

June 2000

A Shift		B Shift		C Shift			
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
Smother cooking fires with a pan lid.		Never swim alone.		1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
					Fairfax Fair	Fairfax Fair	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
Fairfax Fair			Flag Day				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Father's Day							
25	26	27	28	29	30		
		May 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			Never leave children unattended around water.		July 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 9 10 11 12 13 14 8 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



Support Services

Support Services provides direct technical support to frontline emergency services personnel related to apparatus, telecommunications, resource management, logistics, automation and information processing. These functions are vital to the daily operations and efficiency of the organization.

More than 1,700 pieces of communications equipment, including mobile and portable radios, pagers, cellular phones and mobile data terminals for emergency dispatch are maintained. A uniformed fire officer is assigned to the Public Safety Communications Center to provide technical and operational assistance to 911 emergency dispatchers.

Apparatus staff coordinates the maintenance of over 350 vehicles, including heavy and specialized apparatus. They are also responsible for repairing breathing apparatus and specialized tools such as chain saws, and routine testing of equipment.

A reliable, automated information management system provides personnel and citizens with information used in resource planning, analysis, and efficiency studies.

Systems management staff is responsible for maintenance, management, and user support of all computer automation. Staff members have oversight of all personal computers, two local area networks, one wide area network, the Computer Aided Dispatch System (CAD), over 30 remote workstation sites, and also coordinate the manipulation and retrieval of data within the system.

Resource Management staff also coordinates supplies and equipment for the organization. Accountable resources are audited annually and tracked from beginning to end.

July 2000

A Shift		B Shift		C Shift			
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
	Don't drink and drive.			Look both ways before crossing the street.		1 <i>Fire and Rescue Dept. 51st Anniversary</i>	
2	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31	June 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			Buckle up for safety.	August 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	



Human Resources

The Human Resource Section is responsible for planning, coordinating, and directing personnel, payroll, recruitment and promotion testing. The Personnel and Payroll Section provides benefit and pay information to uniformed and civilian employees. The Human Resources Section is also responsible for reviewing and interpreting applicable federal and state laws relating to employment practices. The Chief of Human Resources represents the Department during public meetings and court hearings, and at the Civil Service Commission. The Human Resources Chief is the Department's liaison with the County Attorney and Uniformed Retirement Board.

The Recruitment Branch manages the application process for prospective firefighters. This includes various outreach programs in the Washington Metropolitan Area and other locations. Applicants go through an eight step process that includes a written examination, physical abilities test, 1.5 mile run, polygraph, psychological interview, medical examination and background investigation.

Promotional examinations are developed and administered in conjunction with the Fairfax County Department of Human Resources. Subject matter experts from the Department develop each test. Depending on the rank, a written test or a practical examination may be given for each promotion. In some cases a combination of the two formats is used. These examinations are then pilot tested several times within the Department prior to being given.

August 2000

A Shift		B Shift		C Shift		
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Vacuum your smoke detector monthly.		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		Keep matches and lighters away from children.
	When escaping from a fire, check doors for heat before opening.	July 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			September 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	



Occupational Health and Safety

Through its Occupational Health and Safety Division, the Fire and Rescue Department is committed to providing a program that will ensure a healthy workforce, both mentally and physically. The program seeks to minimize occupational injuries and illnesses, lost work-time, disability retirements and workers' compensation costs while enhancing the quality of life for fire and rescue personnel. Additionally, the program strives to remain compliant with applicable government and industry standards affecting our personnel and their work locations.

Issues of code compliance and safety, physical fitness, stress management, infectious disease and injury reporting are areas that staff responds to on a daily basis. Shift safety officers provide 24-hour emergency coverage for incident scene safety, in-station education, safety inspections, accident and injury review and documentation. The program emphasizes physical fitness by supporting personnel with equipment and opportunities for physical fitness training as well as conditioning guidance provided by peer trainers. Education, treatment and reporting related to infectious disease exposure events are expertly coordinated with a team of designated officers.

The Public Safety Occupational Health Center (PSOHC) is also administered through the program. The PSOHC, established in 1997 to address occupational health and compliance requirements for firefighters, now serves all public safety personnel in the county. The PSOHC and its team of dedicated contract staff provides comprehensive health services to include: medical examinations, immunizations, respirator fit-testing, medical consults, surveillance, illness prevention and health risk reduction to career and volunteer firefighters, police officers, and deputy sheriffs. Applicants for public safety positions also receive their physicals there.

September 2000

A Shift		B Shift		C Shift		
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Learn who protects you—visit your local fire and rescue station.		Is your child’s carseat properly installed?		1	2
3	4 <i>Labor Day</i>	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		August <div>12345 6789101112 13141516171819 20212223242526 2728293031</div>		Lower hot water heater temperature to 120 degrees.	October <div>1234567 891011121314 15161718192021 22232425262728 293031</div>	



Academy

The Fire and Rescue Academy is responsible for planning, coordinating, and executing all emergency services training within the Fire and Rescue Department. This responsibility begins the day new recruit firefighters are hired and continues throughout their careers.

The Basic Training Section conducted two 21-week recruit schools, graduating 48 probationary firefighters. Training included: EMT-B certification, automobile extrication, aerial ladder operations, high-rise fire operations, rail training, fire ground survival, technical rescue, hazardous materials first responder, and swift water rescue.

The Field Training Section conducted a variety of continuing education and refresher training classes for personnel. Classes included: two one-week probationary firefighter courses, recertification of CPR and AED skills, classes in firefighter rescue, new equipment evaluation, and ropes and knots. Live fire training was conducted at several donated residential structures and one high-rise building. Two specialty schools were also provided during the year – rescue squad school and an aerial truck school.

The Fire and Rescue Academy hosted over 31,000 hours of volunteer training in 1998. Training was completed over 345 evening and weekend sessions. Thirty-four volunteers were certified at the Firefighter I/II level; 58 were certified as Emergency Medical Technicians. Twenty-two completed rescue squad schools and 15 volunteers completed truck school.

The Emergency Medical Services Training Section is responsible for development and delivery of emergency medical services training for all Department personnel. Training includes certification and recertification of all paramedics and emergency medical technicians. All career personnel must maintain EMT-B certification. There are about 390 career and volunteer personnel who are advanced life support qualified.

The Academy was recently recognized as a Community Training Center for the American Heart Association CPR/AED Program. Staff is also developing a curriculum to deliver a first aid/CPR program for Department civilians. Recently, the American Heart Association and National Safety Council have combined to offer instructor information for FACTS, a program that incorporates basic first aid, CPR, and automatic external defibrillator training. The FACTS program trains personnel to use AED and CPR for positive outcomes for Fairfax County citizens.

October 2000

A Shift		B Shift		C Shift			
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8 <i>Fire Prevention Week October 8 - 14</i>	9	10	11	12 <i>Columbus Day</i>	13	14 <i>Fire Prevention Open House</i>	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29 <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends Change Your Clock– Change Your Battery</i>	30	31 <i>Halloween</i>		Have your chimney checked and cleaned yearly.			
	Carbon monoxide is a silent killer.	September 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			November 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		



Volunteer Fire Departments in Fairfax County

Twelve private non-profit organizations work in partnership with Fairfax County to provide fire stations, equipment and apparatus, and volunteer support. These organizations are identified as volunteer fire departments (VFD's) or as volunteer fire and rescue departments (VFRD's). They are: Annandale VFD, Bailey's Crossroads VFD, Burke VFRD, Centreville VFD, Dunn Loring VFD, Fair Oaks VFRD, Franconia VFD, Great Falls VFD, Greater Springfield VFD, Lorton VFD, McLean VFD, and Vienna VFD.

In 1998, the VFD's involved 380 citizen volunteers in field operations in ranks ranging from probationary trainee through chief officer. These volunteers provided over 80,000 hours of operational service. An additional corps of 400 persons serve in administrative roles and participate in activities such as fund-raising, maintenance of volunteer-owned stations, operation of canteen services during major incidents, and serve as departmental chaplains. The VFD's own the land and building at stations 2, 5, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 22, and 23. The VFD's are responsible for all major construction projects, renovations, and maintenance and upkeep of properties. All VFD's provide the county with apparatus that is purchased through their respective fund-raising efforts. Volunteer fire departments own 33 ambulances, 26 pumpers, three trucks, and four squads which are part of the overall fire and rescue vehicle fleet. In 1998, VFD's purchased two replacement ambulances, two replacement pumpers, two utility vehicles, a canteen unit, and a fire safety house.

The VFD's are represented to the Fire Chief by the Volunteer Fire Commission, a seven-member body appointed by the Board of Supervisors to oversee all matters pertaining to volunteers. In 1998, the Commission was responsible for several activities including the adoption of new volunteer training standards; sponsorship of an annual county-wide firefighter recognition program; implementation of background checks for all operational applicants; and physical exams for all operational volunteers as a condition of beginning or maintaining operational status.

November 2000

A Shift			B Shift			C Shift		
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
	Can your ashes.		1	2	3	4		
5	6	7 Election Day	8	9	10	11 Veteran's Day		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30		Keep space heaters away from combustibles.		
		October 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			If your clothes catch on fire—stop, drop, and roll.			December 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



Public Information and Life Safety Education

An aggressive and proactive public information and life safety education program provides the Fire and Rescue Department an excellent opportunity to educate and inform citizens. Reaching out to the community is a value-added approach that is integral and vital to the way the Department does business.

Throughout the year virtually all of county's citizens are targeted through a myriad of traditional and innovative educational programs and events. Community events that help educate the general public include: Fairfax Fair, Safe Kids Day, Fire Prevention Week Open House, Fall for Fairfax, Safety Olympics, and Culmore Days.

Children and senior citizens are especially important. The popular Project S.A.F.E. (Students Acknowledge Fire Education) program allows firefighters and life safety staff to visit virtually all third-grade classrooms within the county. The Every-Step-of-the-Way program focuses on the high-risk populations—the young and elderly. The Juvenile Firesetters Intervention Program educates young children on the dangers of playing with matches and fire experimentation. The Department continues to play an important role in the Aluminum Cans for Burned Children (ACBC) program, jointly sponsored by the Greater Metropolitan Washington Regional Fire and Rescue Departments and Children's National Medical Center. Over the years, this program has helped give hundreds of special children brighter and better lives.

Recently, the Department has joined with the Fairfax Safe Kids Coalition as a key participant in the safe and proper installation of child safety seats. In concert with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Child Passenger Safety Program the Department has committed in becoming a major player in overcoming the unsafe installation of child safety seats throughout the Washington Metropolitan area.

The public information program reaches the public through the news media regarding general news, special events, policies and procedures. Responses are made to all queries, always striving for the utmost in timeliness and accuracy.

December 2000

A Shift		B Shift		C Shift			
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
	Keep your Christmas tree watered.		Don't overload electrical outlets.		1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	Christmas						
31		November 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			January 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		
New Year's Eve				Place emergency numbers next to phones.			

Emergency Services Data

General

<u>Sites/Areas</u>		<u>Positions</u>		<u>Staffed Functions</u>					
Stations:	34	Uniformed	1,139	Paramedic Engines	34	Quints	1	Foam Unit	1
Battalions:	6	Civilian, Full Time	85	Medics	21	Trucks	12		
Fire Boxes:	481	Civilian, Seasonal	92	Ambulances	18	Heavy Rescue	7		

Response Data

<u>Incidents</u>		<u>Technical Services</u>	
EMS	50,319	Water Rescue	54
Suppression	19,537	Hazardous Materials	152
Public Service	3,798	Technical Rescue	22
Total	73,654	Total	228

Emergency Services

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Rate:	14.9 %
Appropriate Unit Arrival Rate:	
ALS (within six minutes of dispatch)	80.84 %
Suppression (within five minutes of dispatch)	54.67 %

Emergency Medical Services

Drownings/Submersions/Suffocations	3	Cardiac Arrest	443
Helicopter Transports	193	Resuscitations	109
Patients Transported	34,172	Poisonings/Overdoses	575
Burns	234	Motor Vehicle Deaths/Injuries	5,725
Pre-Arrival Aid	90		

Fire Suppression

<u>Fires</u>		<u>False Alarms</u>	
Structure, residential	691	Malicious	349
Cause # 1: Equipment unattended	89	Malfunction	2,302
Cause # 2: Failure to clean	80	Accidental/Other	4,372
Cause # 3: Falling asleep while smoking/cooking	62		
Structure, non-residential	141	<u>Smoke Detectors</u>	
Cause # 1: Unable to determine	22	Alerts (structure fires)	532
Cause # 2: Unlawful incendiary	16	Available, not working	147
Cause # 3: Heat source too close to combustibles	13		
Vehicle	658	<u>Dollar Loss</u>	
Cause # 1: Unable to determine	209	All fires	\$11,009,146
Cause # 2: Mechanical failure	114		

Fire Data

Fire Investigations and Service Calls Opened/Closed

Accidental	109	Closed	109
Incendiary	134	Closed	23
Undetermined	14		
Other	35	Closed	16
Service	59		
Total Opened	351	Total Closed	148

Fire Value/Loss

	<u>Value</u>	<u>Loss</u>
Accidental	\$ 76,608,453	\$5,432,845
Incendiary	220,394,964	862,064
Undetermined	822,500	555,500
Other	306,890	3,940
Total	\$298,132,807	\$6,854,349

Accidental Fires

Electrical	36	<u>Other Investigations</u>	
Mechanical Failure	5	Explosive and Devices	19
Kitchen/Cooking Hazards	9	Fireworks	1
Heating and A/C Equipment	4	Threats to Burn	4
		Attempted Arson	1
FP Ashes/Defective Chimney	2	False Alarms/Tampering	2
Smoking Materials	18	Hazardous Materials Incidents	0
Candles	10	Other	8
Children with Matches/Lighter	2	Total	35
Flammable Liquids/Vapors	2		
Combustibles Near Heat Source	10	<u>Legal Actions</u>	
Spontaneous Ignition	0	Arrests	35
Lightning	1	Petitions (Juvenile)	33
Other Accidental Causes	10	Exceptional Closures	24
Total	109	Total	92

Firefighter's Oath

“I do solemnly swear that I will support and uphold the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the regulations of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, that I will protect the lives and property of the citizens of Fairfax County, while discharging my duties as a firefighter to the best of my ability, and I will maintain the highest standard of integrity in my chosen profession, so help me God.”

Emergency Telephone Numbers . . .

Fire and Ambulance 911 (Voice/TTY)
Police, to report a crime in progress or accident 911 (Voice/TTY)
Non-Emergencies 691-2131, TTY 204-2264
Poison Control (202) 625-3333, TTY (202) 362-8563
Flooding 691-2131
Sanitary sewer line breaks or emergencies 323-1211, TTY 239-8498

In the event of a natural disaster or other major area-wide emergency, tune in to Fairfax County Cable Television Channel 16.

